

The Natural Resource Monitoring Partnership



Monitoring is essential to making effective management decisions and evaluating the outcomes of those decisions. Unfortunately, limited resources, incomplete information, and international or jurisdictional boundaries can compromise the ability of resource managers to design and implement effective monitoring programs. Too often, monitoring is the last thing to get done and the first thing to be cut. Most monitoring and evaluation is driven by specific projects and short term information needs, limiting our ability to take advantage of economies of scale and make the most of scarce resources.

The Natural Resource Monitoring Partnership

The Natural Resource Monitoring Partnership is a collaborative effort by the natural resource management community to improve monitoring efforts in order to support effective evaluation and decision-making. Current participants include state, federal, and Canadian natural resource management agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and academic institutions.

The Partnership is led by several collaborative teams made up of volunteers from participating agencies/organizations. However, the Partnership has no formal authority and does not exert any control over the work of any individual or institution: it exists only to help improve the design and implementation of monitoring programs by improving communication and coordination among individuals and institutions engaged in natural resource monitoring.

Practical Tools To Foster Improved Resource Monitoring (under development through NBII)

The Natural Resource Monitoring Partnership is developing two collaborative, internet-based tools to foster coordination and collaboration of monitoring efforts:

Monitoring Protocol Library - An internet accessible, searchable database that provides information on monitoring protocols and resource assessment methodologies organized to facilitate reference and use. This is not a database of monitoring data or results, but rather a database of protocols. It will be a library or catalog, not a warehouse, developed and maintained by users, under the management of an archivist/librarian.

Monitoring "Locator" - An internet-based, GIS application that allows users to identify what natural resource monitoring is being conducted within a particular area (e.g., State, province, county or other selected geographic area). Users of this system will have search tools to find out about ongoing and historic monitoring according to the scales, targets, and objectives that are of interest to them.

For more information and to join the partnership, visit www.nbii.gov/nrmp.

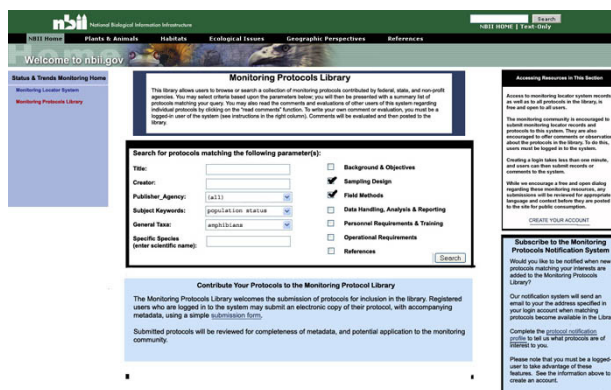
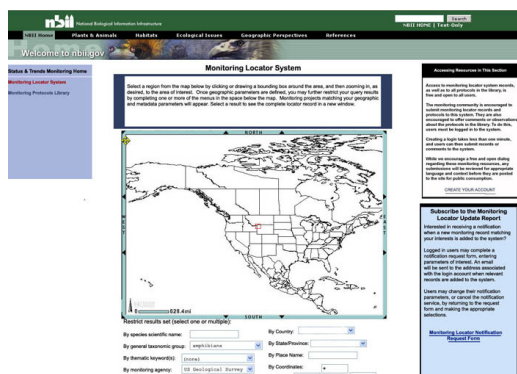


The Natural Resource Monitoring Partnership was built with YOU in mind:

- Get easy access to monitoring protocols throughout the U.S. and Canada
- Find out what monitoring is happening in your region or for a particular species
- Enhance State planning efforts and opportunities for collaboration

Don't reinvent the wheel!

- Save time and funds in protocol development by using our Smart query tools
- Quick data entry makes posting your monitoring projects and protocols simple
- Get information about monitoring protocols or data sources for a new or ongoing study



NRMP wants you to:

- Join the partnership
- Share your monitoring methods and techniques
- Identify your monitoring activities
- Share your protocols
- Promote the Partnership within your organization



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visit www.nbii.gov/nrmp.

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